

W E T

- WENT. *pret.* See WEND and GO.
 WEPT. *pret.* and *part. of weep.*
 She for joy tenderly *wept.* *Milton.*
 WERE. *of the verb to be.*
 To give our filter to one uncircumcised, were a reproach unto us. *Gen. xxxiv. 14.*
 In infusions in things that are of too high a spirit, you were better pour off the first infusion, and use the latter. *Bacon.*
 Henry divided, as it were, *Daniel's Civil War.*
 The person of himself into four parts. *Daniel's Civil War.*
 As though there were any variation in nature, or justness of imagination in professions, this season is termed the physicians vacation. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 He had been well assur'd that art
 And conduct were of war the better part. *Dryden.*
 WERE. *n. f.* A dam. See WEAR.
 O river! let thy bed be turned from fine gravel to weeds and mud; let some unjust niggards make weeds to spoil thy beauty. *Sid.*
 WERT. the second person singular of the preterite of to be.
 Thou wert heard. *B. Johnson.*
 O that thou wert as my brother. *Cant. viii. 1.*
 All join'd, and thou of many wert but one. *Dryden.*
 WERTH. *weorth, wyrth, n. f.* Whether initial or final in the names of places, signify a farm, court, or village, from the Saxon *werth*, used by them in the same sense. *Gibson's Cam.*
 WE'LL. *n. f.* See WESLAND.
 The we'll, or windpipe, we call aspera arteria. *Bacon.*
 WEST. *n. f.* [pret, Saxon; *wesl*, Dutch.] The region where the sun goes below the horizon at the equinoxes.
 The we'll yet glimmers with some streaks of day:
 Now spurs the late traveller apace,
 To gain the timely inn. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*
 The moon in level'd west was set. *Milton.*
 All bright Phoebus views in early morn,
 Or when his evening beams the west adorn. *Pope.*
 WEST. *adj.* Being towards, or coming from, the region of the setting sun.
 A mighty strong west wind took away the locusts. *Ex. x.*
 This shall be your west border. *Num. xxxiv. 6.*
 The Phenicians had great fleets; so had the Carthaginians, which is yet farther west. *Bacon.*
 WEST. *adv.* To the west of any place.
 West of this forest,
 In goodly form comes on the enemy. *Shakespeare.*
 What earth yields in India east or west. *Milton.*
 West from Orontes to the ocean. *Milton.*
 WESTERING. *adj.* Passing to the west.
 The star that rose at evening bright,
 Toward heav'n's descent had slop'd his westering wheel. *Milt.*
 WESTERLY. *adj.* [from *west*.] Tending or being towards the west.
 These bills give us a view of the most easterly, southerly, and westerly parts of England. *Graunt's Bill of Mortality.*
 WESTERN. *adj.* [from *west*.] Being in the west, or toward the part where the sun sets.
 Now fair Phoebus 'gan decline in haste
 His weary waggon to the western vale. *Spenser.*
 The western part is a continued rock. *Addison.*
 WESTWARD. *adv.* [pret, Saxon; *west*, Dutch.] Towards the west.
 By water they found the sea westward from Peru, which is always very calm. *Abbot's Description of the World.*
 The grove of sycamore,
 That westward rooteth from the city side. *Shakespeare.*
 When westward like the sun you took your way,
 And from benighted Britain bore the day. *Dryden.*
 The storm flies,
 From westward, when the show'ry kids arise. *Addison.*
 At home then stay,
 Nor westward curious take thy way. *Prior.*
 WESTWARDLY. *adv.* [from *westward*.] With tendency to the west.
 If our loves faint, and westwardly decline;
 To me thou falsely thin'st,
 And I to thee mine actions shall disguise. *Donne.*
 WET. *adj.* [pret, Saxon; *waed*, Danish.]
 1. Humid; having some moisture adhering.
 They are wet with the show'rs of the mountains. *Jab. xxiv.*
 The soles of the feet have great affinity with the head, and the mouth of the stomach; as going wet-shod to those that use it not, affecteth both. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
 2. Rainy; watery.
 Wet weather seldom hurts the most unwise. *Dryden.*
 WET. *n. f.* Water; humidity; moisture; rainy weather.
 Plants appearing weather'd, stubby, and curled, is the effect of immoderate wet. *Bacon.*
 Now the sun, with more effectual beams,
 Had cheer'd the face of the earth, and dry'd the wet
 From drooping plants. *Milton's Par. Regain'd.*
 Tubercles will not endure the wet; therefore set your pots into the conserve, and keep them dry. *Evelyn.*
 Your master's riding-coat turn inside out, to preserve the outside from wet. *Swift.*

W H A

- To WET. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
 1. To humectate; to moisten; to make to have moisture adhere.
 Better learn of him, that learned be,
 And han been watered at the mufes well;
 The kindly dew drops from the higher tree,
 And wets the little plants, that lowly dwell. *Spenser.*
 A drop of water running swiftly over straw, wettest not. *Bacon.*
 Wet the thirsty earth with falling show'rs. *Milton.*
 2. To drench with drink.
 Let's drink the other cup to wet our whistles, and to sing away all sad thoughts. *Walton's Angler.*
 WETHER. *n. f.* [pret, Saxon; *weder*, Dutch.] A ram castrated.
 I am a tainted wether of the flock,
 Meetest for death. *Shakespeare. Merch. of Venice.*
 He doth not apprehend how the tail of an African wether outweigheth the body of a good calf, that is, an hundred pound. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*
 Although there be naturally of horses, bulls, or rams, more males than females; yet artificially, that is, by making geldings, oxen, and wethers, there are fewer. *Graunt.*
 When Blowzelind expir'd, the wether's bell
 Before the drooping flock toll'd forth her knell. *Gay.*
 It is much more difficult to find a fat wether, than it half that species were fairly knock'd on the head. *Swift.*
 WETNESS. [from *wet*.] The state of being wet; moisture; humidity.
 The wetness of these bottoms often spoils them for corn. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
 To WEX. *v. a.* [corrupted from *wax* by *Spenser*, for a rhyme, and imitated by *Dryden*.] To grow; to increase.
 She first taught men a woman to obey;
 But when her son to man's estate did wax,
 She it furrer'd. *Fairy Queen, b. ii.*
 She trod a waxing moon, that soon would wane,
 And drinking borrow'd light, be fill'd again. *Dryden.*
 Counting few'n from noon,
 'Tis Venus' hour, and in the waxing moon. *Dryden.*
 WE'ZAND. *n. f.* [see *wesand*.] The windpipe.
 Air is ingulfible, and by the rough artery, or wezand, conducted into the lungs. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 WHALE. *n. f.* [hyale, Saxon.] The largest of fish; the largest of the animals that inhabit this globe.
 God created the great whales. *Genesis.*
 Bar'd up with ribs of whale-bone, she did leese
 None of the whale's length, for it reach'd her knees. *Bp. Corbet.*
 The greatest whale that swims the sea,
 Does instantly my pow'r obey. *Swift.*
 WHAME. *n. f.*
 The whame, or burrel-fly, is vexatious to horses in summer, not by stinging, but by their bomyblous noise, or tickling them in flicking their nits on the hair. *Durham.*
 WHALY. *adj.* [See *weal*.] Marked in streaks.
 A bearded goat, whose rugged hair,
 And whaly eyes, the sign of jealousy,
 Was like the person's self, whom he did bear. *Fa. Queen.*
 WHARF. *n. f.* [swarf, Swedish; *werf*, Dutch.] A perpendicular bank or mole, raised for the convenience of lading or emptying vessels.
 Duller should'st thou be, than the fat weed,
 That roots itself in ease on Lethe's wharf. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*
 Would'st thou not stir in this. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*
 There were not in London used so many wharfs, or keys, for the landing of merchants goods. *Child on Trade.*
 WHARFAGE. *n. f.* [from *wharf*.] Dues for landing at a wharf.
 WHARFINGER. *n. f.* [from *wharf*.] One who attends a wharf.
 To WHURR. *v. n.* To pronounce the letter *r* with too much force. *Ditt.*
 WHAT. *pronoun.* [hpæ, Saxon; *waet*, Dutch.]
 1. That which.
 What you can make her do,
 I am content to look on; what to speak,
 I am content to hear. *Shakespeare. Winter Tole.*
 In these cases we examine the why, the what, and the how of things. *L'Estrange.*
 He's with a superstitious fear not aw'd,
 For what befalls at home, or what abroad. *Dryden.*
 A satire on one of the common stamp, never meets with that approbation, as what is aimed at a person whose merit places him upon an eminence. *Addison.*
 Mark what it is his mind aims at in the question, and not what words he expresses. *Locke.*
 If any thing be stated in a different manner from what you like, tell me freely. *Pope to Swift.*
 Whatever commodities lie under the greatest discouragements from England, those are what they are most industrious in cultivating. *Swift.*
 2. Which part.
 If we rightly estimate things, what in them is purely owing to nature, and what to labour, we shall find ninety-nine parts of a hundred are wholly to be put on the account of labour. *Locke.*
 3. Some-

W H A

3. Something that is in one's mind indefinitely.
 I tell thee what, corporal, I could tear her. *Shakespeare.*
 4. Which of several.
 Whether it were the shortness of his foresight, the strength of his will, or the dazling of his suspicions, or what it was, certain it is; that the perpetual troubles of his fortunes could not have been without some main errors in his nature. *Bacon.*
 Comets are rather gazed upon than wisely observed; that is, what kind of comet for magnitude, colour, placing in the heaven, or lasting, produceth what kind of effect. *Bacon.*
 See what natures accompany what colours; for by that you shall induce colours by producing those natures. *Bacon.*
 Shew what aliment is proper for that intention, and what intention is proper to be pursued in such a constitution. *Arbuth.*
 5. An interjection by way of surprise or question.
 What! canst thou not forbear me half an hour,
 Then get thee gone, and dig my grave thyself? *Shakespeare.*
 What if I advance an invention of my own to supply the defect of our new writers. *Dryden's Juvenal.*
 6. What *Thought*. What imports it though? notwithstanding.
 An elliptical mode of speech.
 What though a child may be able to read; there is no doubt but the meanest among the people under the law had been as able as the priests themselves were to offer sacrifice, did this make sacrifice of no effect? *Hooker.*
 What though none live my innocence to tell,
 I know it; truth may own a generous pride,
 I clear myself, and care for none beside. *Dryden.*
 7. WHAT *Time*, What *Day*. At the time when; on the day when.
 What day the genial angel to our fire
 Brought her, more lovely than Pandora. *Milton.*
 Then balmy sleep had charm'd my eyes to rest,
 What time the morn mysterious visions brings,
 While purer slumbers spread their golden wings. *Pope.*
 Me mole the daughter of the deep address'd;
 What time with hunger pin'd, my absent mates
 Roam'd the wild life in search of rural cates. *Pope.*
 8. [Pronoun interrogative.] Which of many? interrogatively.
 What art thou, *Fairy Queen.*
 That here in desert halt thy habitation?
 What is't to thee if he neglect thy urn,
 Or without spices lets thy body burn? *Dryden.*
 What e'er I begg'd, thou like a dotard speak'st
 More than is requisite; and what of this?
 Why is it mention'd now. *Dryden.*
 What one of an hundred of the zealous bigots in all parties
 ever examined the tenets he is so stiff in? *Locke.*
 When any new thing comes in their way, children ask the common question of a stranger, what is it? *Locke.*
 9. To how great a degree, used either interrogatively or demonstratively.
 Am I so much deform'd?
 What partial judges are our love and hate? *Dryden.*
 10. It is used adverbially for partly; in part.
 The enemy having his country wasted, what by himself, and what by the soldiers, findeth succour in no place. *Spenser.*
 Thus, what with the war, what with the sweat, what with the gallows, and what with poverty, I am custom shrunk. *Sha.*
 The year before, he had so used the matter, that what by force, what by policy, he had taken from the Christians above thirty small castles. *Kuile's Hist. of the Turks.*
 When they come to cast up the profit and loss, what betwix force, interest, or good manners, the adventurer escapes well, if he can but get off. *L'Estrange.*
 What with carrying apples, grapes, and fewel, he finds himself in a hurry. *L'Estrange.*
 What with the benefit of their situation, the art and parsimony of their people, they have grown so considerable, that they have treated upon an equal foot with great princes. *Tem.*
 They live a popular life, and then what for business, pleasures, company, there's scarce room for a morning's reflection. *Norris.*
 If these halfpence should gain admittance, in no long space of time, what by the clandestine practices of the coiners, what by his own counterfeitings and those of others, his limited quantity would be tripled. *Swift.*
 11. WHAT *Ho*. An interjection of calling.
 What ho, thou genius of the clime, what ho,
 Ly'st thou asleep beneath these hills of snow?
 Stretch out thy lazy limbs. *Dryden.*
 WHAT'EYER. { *pronouns.* [from *what* and *ever*.] What's is
 WHAT'SO. { not now in use.
 WHAT'SOEVER. {
 1. Having one nature or another; being one or another either generally, specifically or numerically.
 To forfeit all your goods, lands, tenements,
 Castles, and what'sover, and to be
 Out of the king's protection. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*
 If thence he 'scape into whatever world. *Milton.*
 In what'sover shape he lurk I'll know. *Milton.*
 Wily restoring what'sover grace
 It lost by change of times, or tongues or place. *Denham.*

W H E

- Holy writ abounds in accounts of this nature, as much as any other history what'sover. *Addison's Freeholder.*
 No contrivance, no prudence what'sover can deviate from his scheme, without leaving us worse than it found us. *Atterbury.*
 Thus whatever successive duration shall be bounded at one end, and be all past and present, must come infinitely short of infinity. *Bentley's Sermons.*
 Whatever is read differs as much from what is repeated without book, as a copy does from an original. *Swift.*
 2. Any thing, be it what it will.
 What'sover our liturgy hath more than theirs, they cut it off. *Hooker.*
 Whatever thing
 The scythe of time mows down, devour. *Milton.*
 3. The same, be it this or that.
 Be what'sor Vitruvius was before. *Pope.*
 4. All that; the whole that; all particulars that.
 From hence he views with his black lidded eye,
 What's the heaven in his wide vault contains. *Spenser.*
 What's the ocean pales or sky inclips
 Is thine. *Shakespeare.*
 At once came forth what'sor creeps. *Milton.*
 WHEAL. *n. f.* [See *WEAL*.] A pustule; a small swelling filled with matter.
 The humour cannot transpire, whereupon it corrupts and raiseth little wheals or blisters. *Wise man's Surgery.*
 WHEAT. *n. f.* [pret, Saxon; *weyde*, Dutch; *tritium*, Lat.] The grain of which bread is chiefly made.
 It hath an apetalous flower, disposed into spikes; each of them consists of many stamina which are included in a squamose flower-cup, having awns: the point rises in the center, which afterwards becomes an oblong seed, convex on one side, but furrowed on the other: it is farinaceous, and inclosed by a coat which before was the flower-cup: these are produced singly, and collected in a close spike, being affixed to an indented axis. The species are; 1. White or red wheat, without awn. 2. Red wheat, in some places called Kentish wheat. 3. White wheat. 4. Red-eared bearded wheat. 5. Cone wheat. 6. Grey wheat, and in some places duck-bill wheat and grey pollard. 7. Polonian wheat. 8. Many eared wheat. 9. Summer wheat. 10. Naked barley. 11. Long grained wheat. 12. Six rowed wheat. 13. White eared wheat with long awns: Of all these sorts cultivated in this country, the cone wheat is chiefly preserved, as it has a larger ear and a fuller grain than any other; but the seeds of all should be annually changed; for if they are sown on the same farm, they will not succeed so well as when the seed is brought from a distant country. *Miller.*
 He mildews the white wheat, and hurts the poor creature of the earth. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
 Reuben went in the days of wheat-harvest. *Gen. xxx.*
 August shall bear the form of a young man of a fierce aspect; upon his head a garland of wheat and rice. *Peachment.*
 Next to rice is wheat; the bran of which is highly acedent. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*
 The damfels laughing fly: the giddy clown
 Again upon a wheat-theat drops a down. *Gay.*
 WHEATEN. *adj.* [from *wheat*.] Made of wheat.
 Of wheaten flour shalt thou make them. *Exod. xxix.*
 Here summer in her wheaten garland crown'd. *Addison.*
 The affize of wheaten bread is in London. *Arbuth.*
 His talk it was the wheaten loaves to lay,
 And from the banquet take the bowls away. *Pope.*
 There is a project on foot for transporting our best wheaten straw to Dunstable, and obliging us by law to take off yearly so many tun of the straw hats. *Swift.*
 WHEATEAR. *n. f.* A small bird very delicate.
 What cook would lose her time in picking larks, wheatears, and other small birds. *Swift.*
 WHEATPLUM. *n. f.* A fort of plum. *Ainsworth.*
 To WHEEL. *v. a.* [Of this word I can find no etymology, though used by good writers, and Locke seems to mention it as a cant word.] To entice by soft words; to flatter; to persuade by kind words.
 His bus'ness was to pump and wheedle,
 And men with their own keys unriddle,
 To make them to themselves give answers,
 For which they pay the necromancers. *Hudibras.*
 A fox stood licking of his lips at the cock, and wheedling him to get him down. *L'Estrange.*
 His fire,
 From Mars his forge sent to Minerva's schools
 To learn the unlucky art of wheedling fools. *Dryden.*
 He that first brought the word sham, or wheedle, in use, put together as he thought fit, ideas he made it stand for. *Locke.*
 A laughing, toying, wheedling, whimpering she,
 Shall make him amble on a gossip's mellace. *Roscoe.*
 The world has never been prepared for their trifles by presences, wheedled or troubled with excuses. *Lepe.*
 Johany